Flooding of foreign goods after the removal of QRs

194. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "with QRs Gone Imports of Tea, Coffee, Spices go up" which appeared in the Hindu dated the 22nd June, 2001;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to control Indian market being flooded by increased imports of these items from foreign countries with the result of withdrawal of Qunatitative Restrictions on these items?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (c) The concerned News item is based on the provisional import data of 300 sensitive items for the period April-May, 2001. This data has been released by this Ministry to the press. The total imports of these 300 sensitive items during this period have shown a negative growth rate of 11% compared to the corresponding period of last year. At micro level imports indicate increase in respect of tea, coffee, spices etc. However, the overall import of these items is insignificant as compared to their domestic production. The import data indicate only normal trading activity in response to demand and supply factors. However, the Government is closely monitoring the imports and is determined to ensure through appropriate use of the tariff mechanism that imports do not cause any serious injury or detriment to the domestic producers.

Dumping of Chinese goods after the removal of QRs

†195. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether foreign, particularly, Chinese goods have been

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.